THE BANKING SERVICE COMMISSION (REPEAL) BILL, 2002.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to repeal the Banking Service Commission Act, 1984, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The question was proposed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Saifuddin Soz. Absent.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS(SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): Sir, this is not a controversial matter. This can be passed without discussion.

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी (पश्चिमी बंगाल): सर, बैंक भी बेच डालेंगे ये लोग । बैंक भी बेच देंगे ये लोग ।

श्री सभापति : नही बेचेंगे । अगर बेचेंगे तो हम लोग बैठे हैं । ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री लालू प्रसाद (बिहार): सर, सभी सरकारों ने विरोध किया है । ये गलत बयानी कर रहे हैं । ये ज़बरदस्ती थोप रहे हैं और देश को कौड़ियों के भाव बेच रहे हैं । अब रेलवे को बेचेंगे, श्मशान घाट को बेचेंगे, ये किसी को छोड़ने वाले नही हैं ।

श्री सभापति : कोई चिंता मत करो । आप बैठे हैं, कोई बिकेगा नहीं और अगर बिकेगा तो लालू जी वापस ले आएंगे । षण्मुगसुन्दरम जी, बोलिए ।

SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, thank you very much for the opportunity given to me. Sir, this is a Repeal Bill, which is introduced to repeal an Act, which was introduced in 1984, and which after introduction, was not implemented at all. Sir, I just want one guarantee from the hon. Minister. When the Government intends to bring this legislation to repeal the Bill, it should take care of the earlier Act. The earlier Act, under Section 17, guaranteed reservation to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. In my opinion, when the Government intends to repeal the earlier Act, some steps must be taken to ensure that the earlier reservation is continued for recruitment in the banking services. As per Article 310 of the Constitution of India, employment is guaranteed in the public sector undertakings. When the banks are nationalised, the same guarantee should continue. Therefore, I request that an assurance must be given by the Government to this effect. With these words, I conclude. Thank you, Sir.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI) in the Chair]

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu) : Mr. Vice-Chairman Sir, the Repeal Bill has been brought before us for discussion. In case the Banking Services Recruitment Board is also going to be abolished, as indicated in the statement made by the hon. Finance Minister last year, and the Bill is also repealed, there will be no guarantee for reservation in future appointments in any nationalised bank. Therefore, we want an assurance from the hon. Minister that the reservation policy so far adhered to in the recruitment to banks, should be adhered to in the future also. Already the insurance companies are affected. All public sector units are going to be disinvested and privatised. So, the reservation policy will be affected. Hence, I wish to appeal that the reservation policy should be continued by the Government even after the repeal of this Bill.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Jammu and Kashmir) : Sir, much cannot be said on this Bill because the Banking Service Commission is to be repealed. But, I want to state in this august House that there is something radically wrong with the system. In 1984, this Bill was passed, it became an Act, and it remained there all these years. So, the hon. Minister has to make sure as to how many things are there in the system, which will come before this House after many years. There is some contradiction in the objectives also. It has been said that recruitment shall be done by individual banks according to their requirement. You say that the system has worked well. But still, this remains in the Statute Book. I think this Act will remain on the Statute Book; it was not needed at all. But how was it tolerated on the Statute Book? I see somewhere in that objective a pessimistic note. It has been said that because of consolidation and mechanisation, much recruitment is not needed in the banks. Now, the hon. Minister should understand what is meant by this remark. You bring in computers and say that you don't need people around. That means, your policy is to create unemployment in this country. What do you mean by mechanisation and consolidation? This way you create an impression that there is no need for recruitment. Therefore, this Act should go. This is a pessimistic note and the situation is that banks are promoting concentration of wealth in a limited section of the society. And your objective says that the Recruitment Board is not required; there is not much of work there. Because we need no boys and girls to work in banks, because you have consolidated and you have mechanised, I agree with the repealing of this Act. It should have been done long back. I am not criticising this Government alone. Why was this

Act, which you did not require, there on the Statute Book? Subsequently, you did so many things. You reviewed it in 1987. You did not require it; yet, you continued with it! My point is that the hon. Minister should look into this situation and come forward before the House and say that there are no more laws which are not needed by the society, on the Statute Book, so that we feel sure that you have come up with a comprehensive Bill. It involves our time. Much discussion might have taken place in 1984 and 1987. After so many years, you have come to repeal it. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, I find a pessimistic note. After all, banks are not there to only promote wealth in certain families. They are also needed to promote employment for boys and girls in the country. And you talk of mechanisation and consolidation! I do not agree with you. There is no consolidation. These concepts are outdated. India is growing into a powerful country, but we cannot generate unemployment for people. What for are these colleges and universities meant? So, education should be imparted to our boys and girls in such a way that they get jobs in banks and other sectors. Banks should provide jobs. Computers have come but boys and girls have not to go out. In repealing this Act, the objectives smack of pessimism on the part of those who have drafted this Bill. Thank you very much, Sir.

SHRI C.O. POULOSE (Kerala): Sir, the Government should have brought the Bill much earlier as the act of repealing have taken place long before. Now, the Government is bringing forward this Bill. The methodology of introducing the Bill at this late hour is not appreciable. This is point number one I want to state.

The second point is regarding the reservation in banks. There should be reservation in employment. The Government should find out some ways to see that there should be reservation for SC/ST/backward communities/minorities in banks. The Government should take some steps in this regard. With these words I conclude.

श्री लालू प्रसाद : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मेरी और मेरे दल की यह मान्यता रही है कि भाजपा सरकार एंटी रिजर्वेशन, एंटी दलित और एंटी बैकवर्ड है । इनके उसूल और सिद्धांत रिजर्वेशन के खिलाफ हैं । इसकी लड़ाई हम लोग लड़ते रहे हैं । महोदय, मंडल कमीशन लागू हुआ । यह कमंडल लेकर घूमने वालो की सरकार बनी है । बैंको मे, एल.आई.सी. मे, रेलवे मे बड़ी चतुराई और बड़े तरीके से इस देश के युवा और युवतियो को एक साजिश के तहत नौकरियो के अवसर पर, रिजर्वेशन के अवसर पर जब गरीबो का मौका आया-बड़ी जंग और जेहाद के बाद मंडल कमीशन लागू हुआ, गरीबो के ऊपर तेजाब फैंके गए-दस प्रतिशत, बीस प्रतिशत कहकर हर जगह लोगो की बहाली पर रोक लगाई जा रही है । दूसरी तरफ मुनाफे मे

चलने वाले प्राइवेट सैक्टर को बेचा जा रहा है । प्राइवेट सैक्टर का जन्म मुनाफे के लिए नहीं हुआ था । वेलफेयर स्टेट है । पब्लिक सैक्टर है । लेकिन इन कारखानों में काम करने वाले लाखों गरीबों को, वंचितों को, जो अंतिम समाज के आदमी हैं, उन्हें बड़ी चतुराई से निजी हाथों में देकर वापस भेजा जा रहा है । उन्हें वापस लौटना पड़ रहा है । महोदय, ये जो बैंक हैं, इन बैंकों में एक कमीशन था । रिक्रूटमेंट बोर्ड के लिए मेधावी लोग आते थे । आज एक साजिश के तहत जो सैकिण्ड क्लास का लड़का या युवती है उसे न लेकर जो क्लास वन से, फर्स्ट डिवीजन से पास हो जाता है, उसे लिया जा रहा है । जो अनार्की है और इस बिल को, जो रिपील किया जा रहा है उससे कोई रास्ता नजर नहीं आ रहा है । इस बिल के माध्यम से सरकार ने इसमें संसद को कुछ बताने का काम नहीं किया है । महोदय, मेरा यह मानना है कि यह सरकार बड़ी साजिश के तहत देश भर के दलितों को, गरीबों को और ऊंची जाति के जो युवक-युवतियां हैं उनको सचेष्ट हो जाना चाहिए, यह सरकार मानने वाली नहीं है, यह सरकार एंटी है और यह इस देश में नहीं चाहती है कि लोगों को रोज़गार मिले, सर्विसेज़ मिलें । यह चंद घरानों को, जो हाई-फाई घर के रहने वाले लोग हैं उनके लिए यह पबन्ध किया जा रहा है और यह जो सारा रेक्रूटमेंट करने का बोर्ड था उसको समाप्त किया जा रहा है । इसलिए मैं और मेरा दल इसका विरोध करते हैं । यह बताइये कि आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं, आपने क्यों पास किया था, क्यों आपने बनाया था, इसमें कहां रिज़र्वेशन की बात है । जब आपके मन में आता है या कोई ब्यूरोक्रेट ने बताया तो आप लोग बिल ले कर चले आते हैं । इसलिए मैं इसका विरोध करता हूं।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, hon. Members have expressed their apprehensions about the repealing of this Act. I want to bring to your kind notice that this Commission was constituted in 1984. It has not been operational for the past 4-5 years. In the year 1985, Banking Service Recruitment Boards were established for recruitment of officers and clerks in the nationalised banks. After that the State Bank of India and its associate banks have been recruiting their officers through their Regional Recruitment Boards. It was again reviewed in 1987. After the review, it was found that the Banking Service Recruitment Boards were doing well. They are, certainly, doing their recruitment well. Hence, it is not necessary to have the Banking Service Commission Act, which is not being implemented. After that, the Financial Systems Committee, I mean, the Narasimhan Committee, recommended the recruitment policy and said that it was not necessary to keep it in the Statute Book. After that a Committee, under the Chairmanship of Dr. D.R. Mehta, Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank, recommended the repeal of the Banking Service Commission Act, 1984. After that, because of various reasons, we felt that it should be repealed. During 2001-02, while presenting the Budget, the hon. Finance Minister said that since autonomy was given to the banks to recruit the personnel according to their needs, the RRBs and the BSRBs should be abolished and that the selection

process should be handed over to the respective banks. It was only after that it was abolished. So, this Service Commission Act is not necessary to be kept in the Statute Book. Hence, we have brought this repeal Bill. At the same time, some hon. Members wanted to know, if it is abolished, what is the alternative to the Reservation Policy. Hon. Members, Shri Shunmugasundaram, Shri Viduthalai Virumbi and Shri Lalu Prasad, have stated that it is an anti-Dalit and anti-poor Government. It is not like that. We are for the development and welfare of the poor people. We are adhering to our Reservation Policy and instructing the banks that, while recruiting officers of Class-I or Class-II or Groups C & D employees, they should adhere to the Reservation Policy. The respective Bank Boards are given the power. They will adhere to the Reservation Policy in respect of SCs, STs and OBCs. They will do their recruitment, according to the Reservation Policy. If anybody fails in this respect, the Government will intervene and take necessary action and those who are responsible will be punished. I assure this House that the Reservation Policy would continue and it will be adhered to at all levels including Group-C and Group-D. With these words, I request the whole House to approve this repeal Bill.

श्री लालू प्रसाद : आप गारंटी दे रहे हैं कि कोई नुकसान नहीं होगा तो ठीक है ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): I shall now put the motion to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill to repeal the Banking Service Commission Act, 1984, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): We shall now take up the clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clasue 1 - Short title

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): There is one amendment by the Minister.

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN: Sir, I beg to move:

"That at page 1, line 3, *for* the figure "2002" the figure "2003" be *substituted.*"

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): There is one amendment by the Minister.

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN: Sir, I beg to move:

"That at page 1, line 1, *for* the word "Fifty-third" the word "Fifty-fourth" be *substituted*."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN: Sir, I beg to move:

That the Bill, as amended, be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): The House is adjourned for lunch up to 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at thirty-nine minutes past one of the clock.

The House re-assembled after lunch at thirty three minutes past two of the clock, THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

Severe Drought Situation in Various Parts of the Country

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Whenever we discuss drought, there is always a drought in the House. It is a tragic situation. I think we should stop discussing drought, only then we might have some rains.

कृषि मंत्री (श्री अजित सिंह) : मैडम, कल से बारिश हो रही है ।

उपसभापति: जी, जब एक्सेप्ट किया था तो बारिश नहीं हो रही थी । एक्सेप्ट करके बारिश हो रही है । अगर डिसकस न करें तो हमें क्या एतराज है ! सुरेश जी, बोलिए ।